

***Eriogonum anemophilum*** E. Greene (1897)**WINDLOVING BUCKWHEAT**

**FAMILY:** *Polygonaceae*, the buckwheat family.

**STATUS:** **Heritage Program SENSITIVE LIST, ranks: G2G3 S2S3**

**USFWS/ESA:** species of concern. **STATE OF NEVADA:** none. **BLM:** Special Status Species. **USFS:** none.

**NNNPS:** watch list.

**POPULATION CENSUS:** **23 occurrences mapped** at 1.0 km (0.6 mi) separation, **OR 33 occurrences mapped** at 0.16 km (0.1 mi) separation; total estimated **individuals 26,000+**, total estimated **area 108+ ha (267+ ac)**. **TREND:** unknown.

**IMPACTS AND MAJOR THREATS:** No summary available (see references).

**INVENTORY EFFORT:** Surveys have been extensive, but much potential habitat likely remains unexplored, especially at lower elevations. Most recent entered survey 1989, average year of last survey 1984.

**Years since last entered survey** (percent of mapped records at various survey ages): **11-20 yrs: 75.8%; 21-30 yrs: 21.2%; 51+ yrs or unknown: 3%.**

**LAND MANAGEMENT** in decreasing predominance: U. S. Bureau of Land Management, private lands.

**RANGE:** Churchill, Humboldt, Lander, Pershing, and Washoe counties, Nevada. Endemic to Nevada. Report from California based on misapplication of the name to a California specimen of *Eriogonum ochrocephalum* var. *agnellum* (= *E. rosense*) (Hickman 1993). Maximum **range dimension 146.1 km (90.8 mi)** excluding most disjunct record. **Type specimen** collected in Pershing County.

**ELEVATIONS RECORDED:** 4750-9836 feet (1448-2998 meters).

**HABITAT:** At high elevations on dry, exposed, relatively barren and undisturbed, gravelly, limestone or volcanic ridges and ridgeline knolls, on outcrops or shallow rocky soils over bedrock, with *Artemisia arbuscula*, *Ericameria viscidiflora*, *Poa secunda*, *Elymus elymoides*, *Arenaria kingii*, etc. At low elevations on dry, relatively barren and undisturbed knolls and slopes of light-colored, platy volcanic tuff weathered to form stiff clay soils, on all aspects, with *Tetradymia canescens*, *Ericameria nauseosa*, *E. viscidiflora*, *Atriplex confertifolia*, *Elymus elymoides*, *Elymus cinereus*, *Astragalus calycosus*, etc.

**PHENOLOGY:** flowering late-spring to summer. Range of most frequent **survey months:** June-July.

**LIFE-FORM AND HABIT:** small matted long-lived perennial herb.

**DESCRIPTION:** A low perennial herb with leafless flower stalks rising about 6.5 cm above clumps of white-hairy leaves. The stalks bear a terminal, globular cluster of white flowers. Blooms in late June and July.

**PHOTOGRAPHS:** Reynolds (2000); Nevada Natural Heritage Program images web page (1998-present) and slide collection (1986-present).

**ILLUSTRATIONS:** Mozingo and Williams (1980).

**OTHER GENERAL REFERENCES** (listed separately): Reveal (1985).

**SPECIFIC REFERENCES:**

Greene, E. L. 1897. New species of *Eriogonum*. *Pittonia* 3: 199-214.

Reynolds, J. 2000. Current knowledge and conservation status of *Eriogonum anemophilum* Greene (*Polygonaceae*), wind-loving buckwheat. Carson City: Nevada Natural Heritage Program, DRAFT status report prepared for the Bureau of Land Management, Reno.

Tiehm, A. 1989. Proposed threatened and endangered plants of the Humboldt Range, Pershing County, Nevada. Carson City: Nevada Natural Heritage Program.

**OF FURTHER INTEREST:** Unusual in its bimodal distribution at high and low elevations in different habitats. In California, the name *Eriogonum anemophilum* has in the past been misapplied to plants of *Eriogonum rosense* (Hickman 1993).

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